



Coalition To Restore Coastal Louisiana

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Governor Candidates Lay out Plans for Coastal Restoration at CRCL's Coastal Issues Forum

All Four Candidates Support Diversions for Coastal Restoration

(Baton Rouge, LA –August 19, 2015) In front of an audience that topped 500 at Nicholls State University, all four candidates for governor laid out their plans for coastal restoration. The Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana Coastal Issues Forum was the first ever governor's forum dedicated strictly to discussing coastal issues. It highlighted the fact that Louisiana is facing a land loss crisis that will require bold, science-based action by our next governor.

"The next Louisiana Governor has an unprecedented opportunity – and responsibility - to address the land loss crisis that threatens the very future of our state. Tonight we heard from all four candidates that they understand the importance of taking bold actions to save our coast," said Kimberly Davis Reyher, CRCL's Executive Director. "But to do that its going take unprecedented leadership, coordination, and political resolve."

All four candidates—Scott Angelle, Jay Dardenne, John Bel Edwards and David Vitter—said that they support the implementation of the State's Master Plan. They also all vowed to make sure that money received from the BP Settlement will be earmarked for coastal restoration and nothing else.

The other big news of the night came when the candidates were asked if they support sediment diversions as a tool to restore Coastal Louisiana. Without hesitation, all four candidates said sediment diversions and harnessing the power of the Mississippi River to rebuild our coastal wetlands was essential to halting Louisiana's current land loss crisis.

The Coastal Issues Forum was streamed online at www.crcl.org and was viewed by more than 1,000 people. The Forum has been archived and can now be watched in its entirety by logging on to www.crcl.org. It was also re-broadcast in its entirety on Cox4 in Baton Rouge, Lafayette, New Orleans; Eitel 4 in Ascension and Livingston Parishes; and Vision Communications Channel 5, Matthews-Grand Isle. The Forum also aired in an abbreviated format on all public radio stations throughout the state.

About CRCL:

Founded in 1988, The Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana is the longest-standing statewide non-profit organization driving bold, science-based action to rebuild Coastal Louisiana through outreach, restoration and advocacy. With the support of members and volunteers, CRCL advocates strong coastal policies and implements restoration projects across Coastal Louisiana.

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Our Coast, Our Future

www.CRCL.org